

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please delete the ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE as originally filed, and substitute therefor the following replacement Abstract.

**--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

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A digital information system for sale of information in the form of digital signals, and an audio processor, a data compressor, a data extender and a signal processor suitably used with the system. When a digital signal is received, a digital signal source is connected directly to a player for receiving and storing a specified information, which is reproduced by the player independently. A voice interval of a digital audio signal is processed for slow and fast playback. The fast and slow playback are possible without deteriorating the sound quality, and ripples can be greatly reduced against the digital input signal, thereby making possible a faithful data compression of an acoustic signal or the like by a simple configuration. The self-diagnosis function permits the use of a defective memory chip, thereby leading to a very economical system.--

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the following information.

**AMENDMENTS**

The specification initially has been amended to incorporate information regarding related applications for which benefit of an earlier filing date is relied upon in the present continuation application. Applicants reserve the right to present

supplemental Preliminary Amendments to amend the specification as necessary to conform it to U.S. practice and to correct minor grammatical and idiomatic inconsistencies therein, as were submitted and entered in the parent application.

The Abstract has been amended to conform it to U.S. practice requirements for a length of 50-150 words.

Approval and entry of the amendments are courteously solicited.

#### **PENDING CLAIMS**

Original Claims 1-45 have been cancelled, and new Claims 46-54 are submitted herewith. No new matter is added, and all of the limitations in the new claims find full support and antecedent basis in the original application as filed. Therefore, upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 46-54 will be pending for examination and consideration in the present continuation application.

#### **DRAWING CHANGES**

Filed concurrently herewith is a Letter to the Official Draftsperson with proposed figure corrections shown in highlight, which are identical to those required and entered in the parent application. No new matter is added.

Also, attached hereto are forty-six (46) sheets of formal drawings for Figures 1-69 with the highlighted proposed drawing corrections completed thereon. Therefore, approval and entry of the proposed drawing corrections are respectfully requested.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Filed concurrently herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 to identify all of the art cited to or by the Office in the parent applications, for entry in the present application so they appear on the printed face of any patent issuing hereon.

**PRIORITY**

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of JP 02-181402 filed 11 July 1990, JP 02-208072 filed 8 August 1990, JP 03-057972 filed 27 February 1991, and JP 03-057930 filed 28 February 1991. Certified copies of the priority documents and certified copies of English-language translations therefor were filed and acknowledged in prior application Serial No. 07/ 727,420. Confirmation of perfection of Applicants' claim for priority in the present application is courteously solicited.

**ASSIGNEE OF FULL TITLE**

Hitachi, LTD. is Assignee of full right, title and interest in and to the present case by virtue of the Assignment filed in prior application Serial No. 07/727,420 and recorded 9 July 1991 at Reel 5168, Frames 997-999.

**APPENDIX A-MARKED VERSION**

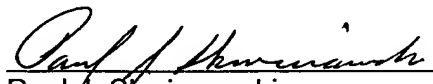
Attached to this Preliminary Amendment is Appendix A-Marked Version showing the amendments made herein by bracketing and underlining of deletions and additions, respectively.

**CONCLUSION**

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with the present continuation application, and therefore, no additional fee is required.

Please charge any deficiencies in the fees filed herewith to ATS&K Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (as Order No. 500.31310CX2), and credit any overpayment thereto.

Respectfully submitted,



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**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Appendix A-Marked Version
- IDS/Form PTO-1449
- Letter to Official Draftsperson and  
Drawing Corrections
- Eighteen (18) sheets of formal drawings (Figs. 1-69)

**APPENDIX A-MARKED VERSION****ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[In a] A digital information system for [realizing the] sale of information [or the like having a commercial value] in the form of [a] digital [signal] signals, and an audio processor, a data compressor, a data extender and a signal processor suitably used with the system[, when]. When a digital signal is received[/delivered], a digital signal source is connected directly to a player for receiving and storing a specified information, which is reproduced by the player independently. A voice interval of a digital audio signal is processed [to realize the] for slow and fast playback. [The system includes a data compressor and a data extender of a simple configuration. The value of the digital signal received/delivered can be exhibited directly. A selling system is constructed easily, and the player is simple in configuration and easy to operate by anyone.] The fast and slow playback are possible without deteriorating the sound quality, and ripples can be greatly reduced against the digital input signal, thereby making possible a faithful data compression of an acoustic signal or the like by a simple configuration. The self-diagnosis function permits the use of a defective memory chip, thereby leading to a very economical system.